

Message Text

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ACTION DLOS-09

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 FEA-01 ACDA-07 AGRE-00
AID-05 CEA-01 CEQ-01 CG-00 CIAE-00 EPG-02 COME-00
DODE-00 DOTE-00 EB-07 EPA-01 ERDA-05 FMC-01
TRSE-00 H-01 INR-07 INT-05 JUSE-00 L-03 NSAE-00
NSC-05 NSF-01 OES-07 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-04 PRS-01
SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 OIC-02 AF-10 ARA-06 EA-07
EUR-12 /160 W

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FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5333
INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAIRO 8639

USUN FOR LOS DEL

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PLOS
SUBJECT: LOS:LAW IF THE SEA CONFERENCE, NEW YORK SESSION MAY 23-
JULY 8, 1977

REF: STATE 116543

1. POLCOUNS CALLED ON AMBASSADOR NABIL AL-ARABY, DIRECTOR MFA
LEGAL DEPARTMENT, MAY 23 TO GIVE HIM NAMES OF MEMBERS OF US DEL
TO SUBJECT CONFERENCE AND FOR GENERAL DISCUSSION. AL-ARABY
SAID GOE DELGATION, WHICH NOT YET OFFICIALLY ANNOUNCED, WILL BE
HEADED BY PERMREP ABDUL MEGUID AND COPRISED OF HIS DEPUTY,
AMBASSADOR BEDAWI, AND FROM CAIRO MOHAMMED BARADEI AND HUSSAIN
AL-HASSOUNA FROM FOREIGN MINISTER'S OFFICE, DR. SHEHAB OF CAIRO
UNIVERSITY AND REPRESENTATIVE FROM MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT.

2. AL-ARABY SAID THAT AS RESULT OF APRIL DISCUSSIONS WITH
MESSRS DARMAN AND SMITH AND REPRESENTATIONS MADE BY OTHER COUNTRIES,
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HE HAD SUBMITTED MEMORANDUM TO FOREIGN MINISTER FAHMY CONTAINING
RECOMMENDATIONS FOR INSTRUCTIONS TO GOE DEL. HE EXPECTED FORMIN
TO ACT ON IT NEXT WEEK. IN GENERAL, AL-ARABY WAS MORE OPTIMISTIC
THAN PREVIOUSLY ABOUT POSSIBILITY OF LOS TREATY BUT HE HELD OUT LITTLE

HOPE FOR COMPLETION OF WORK DURING SIXTH SESSION.

2. AL-ARABY FOUND GENERAL REVIEW OF OUTSTANDING ISSUES FAMILIAR TERRAIN WHICH HE HAD GONE OVER WITH MESSRS DARMAN AND SMITH. ONLY COMMENTS OF INTEREST HE MADE WERE: (A) QUOTAS FOR DEEP SEABED MINING OPERATIONS. GOE INFORMATION WAS THAT US HAD TECHNOLOGY TO BEGIN EXPLOTATION ALMOST IMMEDIATELY; EEC WILL HAVE TECHNOLOGY BY MID-80'S BUT USSR NOT UNTIL END OF 1980'S. GOE FAVORS NATIONAL QUOTAS AND BELIEVES US WILL HAVE TO ACCEPT THEM. (B) SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH. GOE CONTINUES TO REQUIRE PRIOR CONSENT FOR ALL RPT ALL SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH (SEPTTEL). (C) LIMITS OF CONTINETAL SHELF. REPRESENTATIVES OF AGRENTINA, CANADA AND UK HAVE MADE NUMEROUS REPRESENTATIONS TO GOE SEEKING COASTAL STATE CONTROL BEYOND 200 MILES. GOE BELIEVES 200 MILES IS SUFFICIENT FOR EEZ.

3. POSITION OF CHINESE. AL-ARABY SAID CHINESE ARE THE MOST VOCAL AND STRONGLY OPPOSED STATE TO "PARALLEL SYSTEM" FOR EXPLOITATION DEEP SEABED ON GROUNDS THAT IT REPRESENTS COMMON HERITAGE OF MANKIND AND MUST BE EXPLOITED ONLY FOR BENEFIT OF ALL MANKIND.

4. COMMENT: GOE DEL CONTAINS FAMILIAR NAMES AND FACES TO US LOS DEL. HASSOUNA AND BARADEI ARE KNOWLEDGEABLE ON BOTH UN AND LOS MATTERS ALTHOUGH ONLY MIDDLE LEVEL IN RANK. AL-ARABY HAD HOPED TO ATTEND BUT FONMIN FAHMY VETOED IT AT LAST MINUTE. IN VIEW OF FACT THAT NEITHER UNDERSECRETARY AHMAD OSMAN NOR AL-ARABY PLAN TO ATTEND CONFERENCE, US DEL MAY FIND IT WORTHWHILE FROM TIME TO TIME DURING SESSION TO HAVE EMBASSY CAIRO FOLLOW UP OR PUSH CERTAIN POINTS WITH MFA OFFICIALS HERE.

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5. LOS OFFICER LOWRIE WILL BE IN NEW YORK ON ANNUAL LEAVE DURING FIRST FEW WEEKS OF CONFERENCE AND WOULD APPRECIATE OPPORTUNITY TO CALL ON SMITH OR DARMAN AND PERHAPS OBSERVE ONE OF WORKING SESSIONS.
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Message Attributes

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